

# INFORMATION REPORT      DISSEMINATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	25X1
SUBJECT	Bridges on the Sofia-Stalin Railroad Line	DATE DISTR.	12 July 1955
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**SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.**

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1. The following is a brief description of the Sofia-Stalin railroad line:

- a. Route: Sofia - Mezdra (M43-09, E23-43) - Cherven Bryag (M43-17, E24-05) - Yasen (M43-25, E24-32) - Plevna - Levski (M43-21, E25-09) - Gorna Oryakhovitsa - Popovo - Tezar Krum (M43-12, E26-54) - Kolarovgrad - Kaspichan (M43-18, E27-11) - Sindel (M43-07, E27-36) - Rasdelna (M43-10, E27-39) - Stalin.
- b. Total length of route: 580 kilometers
- c. Travelling time: approximately 13 hours
- d. Gauge of tracks: 143 centimeters (standard)
- e. Number of tracks: one
- f. Mode of locomotion: steam
- g. Number of bridges: 24
- h. Tunnels: 21 small tunnels, ranging from 100 meters to 1000 meters in length, for a total of 5000 meters.

In 1950, the rails were replaced on the Sofia - Mezdra - Plevna - Levski stretch. A new freight station was constructed recently, in the city of Stalin.

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2. The following is a list of the bridges on the Sofia - Stalin railroad line, and the page of this report on which the description of each bridge can be found:

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3. The following is a description of the river bridge across the Vrabnisha Reka:

- a. Location: 10 kilometers from the main station in Sofia;
- b. Type of bridge: Steel girder, with a single span of 12 meters;
- c. Abutments: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 14 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Three meters;
- g. Service paths: One on each side, 1.5 meters wide, paved with steel plates;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Current: Slow;
- k. High water level: 1.50 to 1.80 meters;
- l. Low water level: 50 to 60 centimeters; and
- m. Slope of river banks: 40 degrees.

4. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.2) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: 300 meters south of the Vlado Trichkov station and 17,500 meters from Sofia Main Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, five-span, each 13.5 to 14 meters;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 80 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;

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- f. Height above river bed: 10 to 11 meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; 1.5 meters wide, paved in wood;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water level: 2-2.5 meters;
- m. Low water level: 60 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: North bank, 60 degrees; south bank, 90 degrees.

5. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.3) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: Three kilometers north of Vlado Trichkov station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, three-span, 15 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: 50 to 52 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Seven to eight meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water level: 2-2.5 meters;
- m. Low water level: 80 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 90 degrees.

6. The following is a description of the river bridge (No. 4) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: 3.3 kilometers north of Vlado Trichkov station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans, 13 to 15 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: 47 to 50 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Nine meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. High water level: 2.5 meters;
- l. Low water level: 80 centimeters; and
- m. Slope of river banks: 85 degrees.

7. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.5) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: 3.9 kilometers north of Vlado Trichkov station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans of 15 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: 52 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Eight to nine meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;

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- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water level: 2.5 to 2.8 meters;
- m. Low water level: 80 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 85 degrees.

8. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.6) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: One kilometer north of Tompein station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 24 meters each;
- c. Girderwork: Two (one on either side) continuous parabolic girders, with straight understats of multiple trestle type;
- d. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- e. Length: Approximately 52 meters;
- f. Width: Eight meters;
- g. Height above river bed: 10 meters;
- h. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with steel plate flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. Current: Swift;
- l. High water mark: 2.5 to three meters;
- m. Low water mark: 80 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 85 degrees.

9. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.7) across the Iskrets:

- a. Location: 400 meters north of Svoze Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with a single span of 30 meters;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 33 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: 15 meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Current: Swift;
- k. High water mark: 1.5 meters;
- l. Low water mark: 30 to 40 centimeters; and
- m. Slope of river banks: 50 degrees.

10. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.8) across the Bovska Reka:

- a. Location: 50 meters south of the Bov Railroad Station (approximately 10 kilometers south of Svoze);
- b. Type: Steel girder, with a single span of 28 to 30 meters;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: 30 to 32 meters;
- e. Width: 40 to 45 meters (6 to 7 tracks);
- f. Height above river bed: Eight meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each two meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;

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- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Swift;
- l. High water mark: unknown;
- m. Low water mark: 40 centimeters (approx.); and
- n. Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.

11. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.9) across the Iakur:

- a. Location: 800 meters from Eliseyna Station (which is situated approximately 4500 meters east of Zverino, in the direction of Svoge);
- b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 20 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 45 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Eight meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- i. Current: Slow;
- j. High water mark: Two meters;
- k. Low water mark: 60 centimeters; and
- l. Slope of river bank: 60 degrees.

12. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.10) across the Elisenska Reka:

- a. Location: 400 meters from Eliseyna Station (which is situated 4500 meters east of Zverino, in the direction of Mesdra);
- b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 15 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 35 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above water: Eight meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water mark: unknown;
- m. Low water mark: 50 to 60 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river bank: 60 to 65 degrees.

13. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.11) across the Lyutibrodka Reka:

- a. Location: 300 meters west of Lyutibrot Station (which is situated approximately 7.5 kilometers west of Mesdra);
- b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 12 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 30 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Four meters;
- g. Service paths: One on both sides; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;

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- h. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water mark: Two meters;
- m. Low water mark: 15 to 20 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 degrees.

14. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.12) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: 10 to 11 kilometers from Mezdra;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans of 20 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 70 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: 10 meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side, each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Swift;
- l. High water mark: unknown;
- m. Low water mark: unknown; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.

15. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.13) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: Approximately 800 meters east of Roman Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans of 20 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 75 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: 10 meters;
- g. Side walls: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- h. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- i. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- j. Mined: unknown;
- k. Current: Swift;
- l. High water mark: unknown;
- m. Low water mark: unknown; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 70 to 80 degrees.

16. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.14) across the Iskur:

- a. Location: 16 kilometers south of Cherven Bryag Railroad Station, between Chirepic and Karlukovo;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 20 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 50 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: 10 meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;

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- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Medium; and
- l. Slope of river banks: Right bank, 85 degrees; left bank, 50 degrees.

17. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.15) across the Vit:

- a. Location: Four kilometers east of the Yasen Railroad Station, and immediately west of a tunnel;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans of 10 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: 60 to 62 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Six meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water mark: Three meters;
- m. Low water mark: One meter; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.

18. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.16) across the Osum:

- a. Location: Three kilometers east of the Levski station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans of 18 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 65 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Six to seven meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water mark: Three meters;
- m. Low water mark: One meter; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 to 60 degrees.

19. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.17) across the Rositsa:

- a. Location: Two kilometers west of the Mikhaltzi Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 15 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 30 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Six to seven meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water mark: unknown;
- m. Low water mark: unknown; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 to 60 degrees.

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20. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.18) across the Opaka:
- a. Location: Seven kilometers east of the Popovo Railroad Station;
  - b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 15 meters each;
  - c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
  - d. Length: 40 meters;
  - e. Width: Eight meters;
  - f. Height above river bed: Seven meters;
  - g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
  - h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
  - i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
  - j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
  - k. Current: Swift;
  - l. High water mark: unknown;
  - m. Low water mark: 40 centimeters; and
  - n. Slope of river banks: 50 to 60 degrees.
21. The following is a description of the bridge (No.19) across a stream (name unknown):
- a. Location: Five kilometers east of the Turgovishte Station;
  - b. Type: Steel girder, with two spans of 14 meters each;
  - c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
  - d. Length: Approximately 25 meters;
  - e. Width: Eight meters;
  - f. Height above river bank: Five meters;
  - g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
  - h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
  - i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
  - j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
  - k. Current: Slow;
  - l. High water mark: 1.5 to two meters;
  - m. Low water mark: 50 centimeters; and
  - n. Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.
22. The following is a description of the bridge (No.20) across a stream (name unknown):
- a. Location: Five kilometers east of Kolarovgrad Railroad Station;
  - b. Type: Steel girder, with three spans of 15 meters each;
  - c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
  - d. Length: Approximately 55 meters;
  - e. Width: Eight meters;
  - f. Height above river bed: Nine meters;
  - g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
  - h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
  - i. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
  - j. Current: Slow;
  - k. High water mark: Two meters;
  - l. Low water mark: 30 centimeters; and
  - m. Slope of river banks: 60 degrees.

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23. The following is a description of the bridge (No.21) across a stream (name unknown):

- a. Location: 1.3 kilometers west of the Kaspichan Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, single-span of 22 meters;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 24 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Six meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. Current: Swift;
- l. High water mark: Two meters;
- m. Low water mark: 30 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 degrees.

24. The following is a description of the bridge (No.22) across a stream (name unknown):

- a. Location: One kilometer north of the Provadiya Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, single-span of 15 meters;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 18 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: 12 meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water mark: 1.2 to 1.5 meters;
- m. Low water mark: 50 centimeters; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 degrees.

25. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.23) across the Ana Dere:

- a. Location: 300 to 400 meters south of the Sindel Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, single-span;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: 22 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Eight meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalizing-bed type;
- k. Current: Very slow;
- l. High water mark: 2.5 to three meters;
- m. Low water mark: One meter; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 to 60 degrees.

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26. The following is a description of the river bridge (No.24) across the Devnya:

- a. Location: 800 meters east of the B elovo Railroad Station;
- b. Type: Steel girder, with four spans of 18-20 meters each;
- c. Abutments and piers: Stone masonry;
- d. Length: Approximately 100 meters;
- e. Width: Eight meters;
- f. Height above river bed: Seven to nine meters;
- g. Side walls: Steel, railing type;
- h. Service paths: One on each side; each 1.5 meters wide, with wooden flooring;
- i. Capacity: 2500 kilograms per square meter;
- j. Support: Equalising-bed type;
- k. Current: Slow;
- l. High water level: Two meters;
- m. Low water level: One meter; and
- n. Slope of river banks: 50 degrees.

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